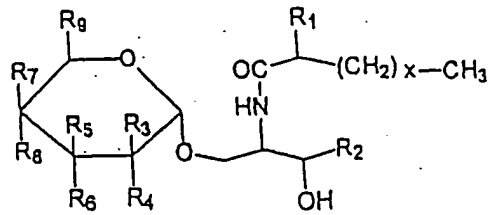
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for activating human antigen-presenting cells which comprises culturing human-derived antigen-presenting cells *in vitro* with at least one of the glycoside compounds represented by formula (A) or salts thereof:



(A)

wherein:

R_1 is H or OH;

X is an integer of from 7 to 25;

R_2 is a substituent defined by any one of the following (a) to (e):

(a) $-CH_2(CH_2)_YCH_3$;

(b) $-CH(OH)(CH_2)_YCH_3$;

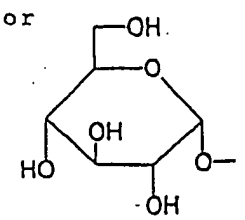
(c) $-CH(OH)(CH_2)_YCH(CH_3)_2$;

(d) $-CH=CH(CH_2)_YCH_3$; and

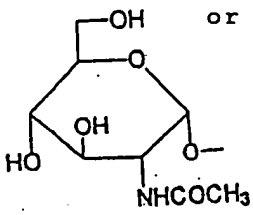
(e) $-CH(OH)(CH_2)_YCH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$;

wherein Y is an integer of from 5 to 17;

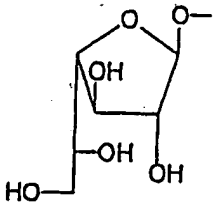
R_3 is H;

R_4 is OH, NH_2, $NHCOCH_3$ or  ;

one of R_5 and R_6 is H and the other is OH,

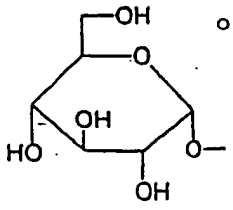


or

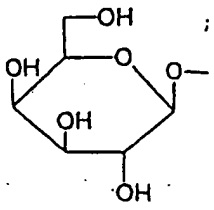


;

one of R_7 and R_8 is H and the other is OH,

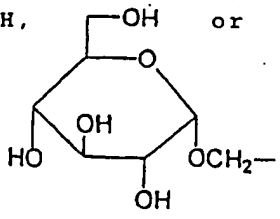


or

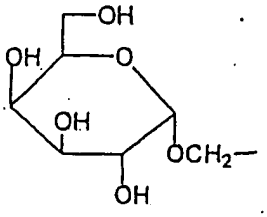


; and

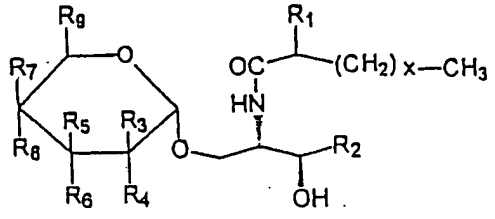
R_9 is H, CH_3, CH_2OH,



or



2. The method of claim 1, wherein the glycoside compound is a compound represented by formula (B):



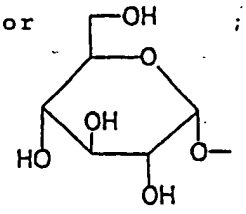
(B)

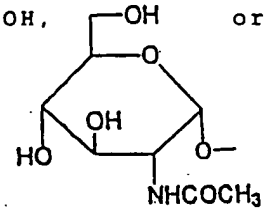
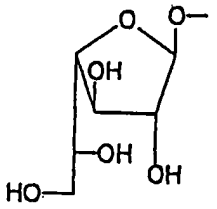
wherein:

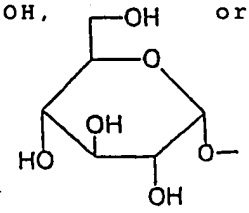
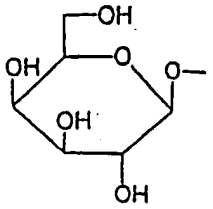
R_1, X and R_2 are as defined as in claim 1; and

R_3 to R_9 are substituents defined by any one of the following (i) to (iii):

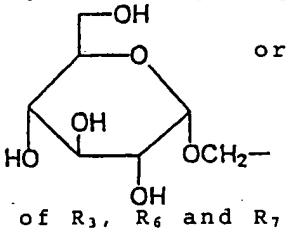
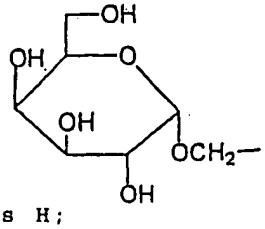
(i) each of R_3, R_6 and R_8 is H;

R_4 is OH or  ;

R_5 is OH,  or  ;

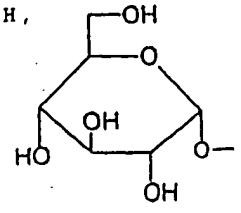
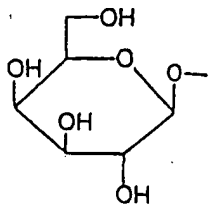
R_7 is OH,  or  ;

and

R_9 is H, CH_3, CH_2OH,  or  ;

(ii) each of R_3, R_6 and R_7 is H;

R_4, R_5 and R_9 are as defined as in (i); and

R_8 is OH,  or  ;or

(iii) each of R_3, R_5 and R_7 is H;

each of R_4, R_6 and R_8 is OH; and

R_9 is H, CH_3 or CH_2OH.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein, in the glycoside compound, each of R_3, R_6 and R_8 is H, each of R_4, R_6 and R_7 is OH, and R_9 is CH_2OH.

4. The method of claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein, in the glycoside compound, R_2 is any one of the substituents (b), (c) and (e).

5. The method of claim 4, wherein, in the glycoside compound, R_1 is H and R_2 is the substituent (b).

6. The method of claim 5, wherein, in the glycoside compound, the OH group in the substituent (b) is of R configuration.

7. The method of claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein, in the glycoside compound, X is an integer of 21 to 25 and Y is an integer of 11 to 15.

8. The method of claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the glycoside compound is (2S,3S,4R)-1-(α-D-galactopyranosyloxy)-2-hexacosanoylamino-3,4-octadecanediol.

9. The method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the concentration of the glycoside compound or the salt

thereof used in the culture is within the range from 0.1 ng/mL to 10 μg/mL.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the concentration of the glycoside compound or the salt thereof is within the range from 0.01 μg/mL to 1 μg/mL.

11. The method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, wherein the culture is performed in the presence of GM-CSF and IL-4.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the culture is performed in the presence of the monocyte conditioned medium (MCM).

13. The method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, wherein the culture is performed in the presence of a tumor antigen.

14. An activated human antigen-presenting cell prepared by activating human-derived antigen-presenting cells by the method of any one of claims 1 to 13.

15. The activated human antigen-presenting cell of claim 14, wherein the human-derived antigen-presenting cell is selected from the group consisting of a CD1c positive cell, a human monocyte and a human dendritic

cell.

16. The activated human antigen-presenting cell of claim 15, wherein the human-derived antigen-presenting cell is prepared from human peripheral blood.

17. The activated human antigen-presenting cell of claim 15, wherein the human-derived antigen-presenting cell is prepared from human umbilical cord blood.

18. The activated human antigen-presenting cell of claim 15, wherein the human-derived antigen-presenting cell is prepared from a human bone marrow cell.

19. The activated human antigen-presenting cell of claim 15, wherein the human-derived antigen-presenting cell is prepared from a human epidermis.

20. An agent for *in vitro* activation of human antigen-presenting cell which comprises, as an active ingredient, at least one of the glycoside compounds or salts thereof of claim 1.

21. The agent of claim 20, wherein at least one of said glycoside compounds or salts thereof of claim 1 is used in combination with a tumor antigen.

22. A method for treating cancer and infectious diseases including AIDS using the activated human antigen-presenting cell of any one of claims 14 to 19.

23. A use of the human activated human antigen-presenting cell of any one of claims 14 to 19 in the preparation of a medicine for treating cancer and infectious diseases including AIDS by application of an antigen-presenting cell therapy.